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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: Ohkado et al.

Serial No.: 09/784,697

Filed: February 15, 2001

For: Method for Acquiring Content
Information, and Software Product,
Collaboration System and
Collaboration Server for Acquiring
Content Information§
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Group Art Unit: 2157

Examiner: El Chanti, Hussein A.

Attorney Docket No.: JP920000034US1

OFFICIAL

**DECLARATION UNDER RULE 1.132
TO OVERCOME REJECTION**

I hereby declare the following:

I am one of the named inventors in the application listed above. My residence address is listed along with my signature at the end of this Declaration.

I further declare the following:

U.S. Patent 6,295,551 (hereinafter, Roberts), which was cited against our application, has some distinct differences from our own solution: At the time Roberts was written, this patent notes that, "web pages are more commonly displayed as one page in a browser and not as frames". However, by the time of our invention, this statement was no longer true. Rather, most Web contents for which we designed collaboration used frames, yet, at that time, when a Java applet was used to detect a URL, the Java applet could not support Web contents with frames. The invention arose, at least in part, out of the need to overcome this limitation.

At the time of our invention, Roberts could have managed the frames it did encounter in one of two ways described below.

(1) A Java applet could not detect whether web contents contained frames. Neither could it determine the number of frames or the relative position of URLs when frames were

¹ U.S. Patent 6,295,551, column 17, lines 53-57

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used. However, a Java applet could have used a proprietary interface, such as Microsoft's proprietary API, to collect browser specific information.

(2) An applet written in a platform-dependent native code would have had access to the platform API, which would provide information on frames. However, such platform dependent applets require browser and/or platform specific installation.

Roberts does state that "one implementation uses a proprietary interface definition language to communicate session information between applets 22, 30 and the server 20². This use of a proprietary interface would have enabled Roberts to manage the frames encountered. However, avoiding the use of proprietary APIs is the one of the purposes of this invention. Additionally, in the case of the second option above, many users do not want to run native code in their browser, since native code does not have a security mechanism like Java.

The language below embodies at least some of the differences between our invention and the reference relied on.

[a] controller [which is embedded into content information] contains

(1) a Java applet that detects a change in content information displayed by the customer browser,

(2) a script, called by said Java applet, which acquires changed page information including a URL of a first page including the changed content information, a URL of a parent page of said first page, the number of child pages of said parent page, and a position of said first page relative to said parent page, and

(3) a tree manager which transmits the changed page information to the collaboration server;

wherein the ability to provide collaboration does not depend on a proprietary interface running on said first information terminal or on said second information terminal

² U.S. Patent 6,295,551, column 10, lines 29-30

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

08/18/2004



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